

**STATE OF MARYLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

IN THE MATTER OF:

\*

DEBORAH ALLS-TEMPLES, D.V.M.

\*

DOCKET NO. 12-37

LICENSE NO. 3453

\*

\* \* \* \* \*

**CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER**

This Consent Agreement and Order (Consent Agreement), dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of MAY, 2012, is between the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (Board) and Deborah Alls-Temples, D.V.M. (Dr. Alls-Temples), License No. 3453. This Consent Agreement resolves the charges filed by the Board on April 23, 2012 in Docket No. 12-37, alleging that Dr. Alls-Temples violated COMAR 15.14.01.04, pertaining to professional conduct, for failing to communicate with a pet owner about the pet's care and treatment, and COMAR 15.14.01.07, pertaining to professional judgment and practice, on or about June 24, 2011, by failing to provide the minimal standards of care of a 17-year-old female Domestic Shorthaired cat, "Scooter," who was presented by Christina Lynn for immediate fluid therapy. On or about May 1, 2012, Dr. Alls-Temples requested to resolve the charges informally. Thereafter, the parties entered into discussions and were able to reach a resolution. By entering into this Consent Agreement, Dr. Alls-Temples waives the right to a hearing and appeal on the charges in Docket No. 12-37. Dr. Alls-Temples has no disciplinary history with the Board.

Under State law, the Board is the licensing authority responsible for regulating the practice of veterinary medicine in this State, which includes filing disciplinary actions against veterinarians charged with violating provisions of the Veterinary Practice Act, Agriculture Article §§ 2-301 *et seq.*, Annotated Code of Maryland and related regulations. As part of its authority, the Board "may refuse, suspend, or revoke any application or license, and censure or place on probation any licensee . . . if the veterinarian . . . [f]ails to comply with Board rules and regulations after receiving a license." Md. Code Ann., Agric. Art., § 2-310(8). In addition, the Board may impose a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 for a first offense or \$10,000 for a second or subsequent offense in lieu of or in addition to suspending a veterinarian's license. Md. Code Ann., Agric. Art., § 2-310.1. In setting the amount

of a civil penalty, the Board shall consider the severity of the violation, the good faith of the violator, and any history of prior violations as well as the Board's regulatory civil penalty standards. Md. Code Ann., State Gov't Art. § 10-1001(b); COMAR 15.14.11 Civil Penalty Standards for Veterinarians.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Dr. Alls-Temples, by entering into and signing this Consent Agreement, while generally and specifically denying liability in this case, agrees to the provisions of this Consent Agreement, acknowledging that the Board has sufficient evidence to find, as fact, and conclude as a matter of law that she did violate certain regulations adopted under the Veterinary Practice Act; specifically, COMAR 15.14.01.04, pertaining to professional conduct, and COMAR 15.14.01.07, pertaining to professional judgment and practice. On or about June 24, 2011, Dr. Alls-Temples failed to communicate in a timely manner with Christina Lynn, the owner of a 17-year-old female Domestic Shorthaired cat, "Scooter." Additionally, Dr. Alls-Temples failed to provide the minimal standards of care expected of a veterinarian in this State when she failed to properly evaluate a patient that required urgent care and was left at the hospital for immediate fluid therapy.

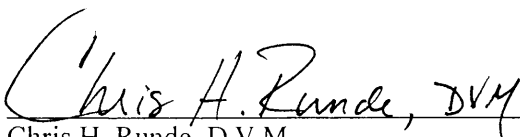
Taking all the facts and circumstances into consideration, including the severity of the violation, Dr. Alls-Temples's lack of a disciplinary history after almost 24 years of practice, and Dr. Alls-Temples's good faith effort to resolve this matter with the Board promptly, the Board concluded that the most reasonable and appropriate resolution in these matters included the following sanctions.

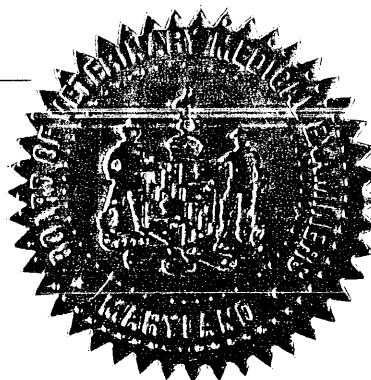
### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2012, by the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, ORDERED that:

- a. For the violations of COMAR 15.14.01.04 Professional Conduct and COMAR 15.14.07 Professional Judgment and Practice, Dr. Alls-Temples is assessed a civil penalty in the total amount of \$500 (\$250 for one professional conduct violation and \$250 for one substandard care violation); payment of \$500 to be made to the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("SBVME") within 30 days of the date of the Order.

- b. As a condition of probation, Dr. Alls-Temples will make a charitable donation of \$500 to the SPCA in Maryland, within 30 days of the date of the Order, with proof submitted to the Board within 30 days of the payment.
- c. Dr. Alls-Temples's License No. 3453 shall be suspended for a period of one week, which period is stayed. The one-week stay of suspension of the license is contingent upon timely compliance with the conditions of probation.
- d. Dr. Alls-Temples shall serve a period of probation of six months. While on probation, the veterinarian shall obey all laws and regulations governing the practice of veterinary medicine in this State and the conditions of this Consent Agreement. Violation of probation means that the veterinarian is charged and the Board ultimately concludes that the veterinarian violated the Veterinary Practice Act, related regulations, or the terms of this Consent Agreement during the period of probation. Violation of probation will result in the stay being lifted, and the Board ordering the veterinarian to comply with the sanction; in this case, suspension of the license for up to one week.
- e. As a condition of probation, Dr. Alls-Temples shall complete six credit hours of continuing education (CE) in emergency and critical care medicine, as **pre-approved** by the Board. The veterinarian shall forward to the Board documentation from the CE provider showing proof of completion of the CE credits required under this Order. Proof from the CE provider shall include Dr. Alls-Temples's name, the number of hours of CE completed, the topics covered, and the dates the CE were given. Completion of this CE will **not** be counted towards the 18 credit hours of CE required annually for re-registration of the veterinary license.

  
Chris H. Runde, D.V.M.  
President  
State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners



CONSENT

I, Deborah Alls-Temple acknowledge that I have had an opportunity to consult with legal counsel before entering into and signing this document. By this Consent, I hereby acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the Board over this matter and to issue and enforce this Consent Agreement. In order to resolve this matter, I agree to accept and submit to the foregoing Consent Agreement, consisting of four pages, including this page. I sign this Consent without reservation as my voluntary act after having had an opportunity to consult with counsel, and I acknowledge that I fully understand the language, meaning, and terms of this Consent Agreement.

5.11.12

Date

Deborah Alls-Temple, D.V.M.

NOTARY

STATE OF Maryland

CITY/COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day of May 11, 2012, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared Deborah Alls-Temple, D.V.M., and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Agreement and Order was her voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.

[Signature] 5/11/12  
Notary Public  
My Commission expires:

